



A gunner assigned to 2-14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, communicates with a reconnaissance and security patrol at Schofield Barracks, Feb. 4. Elements of 3-4th Cav. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, were assigned the task of observer-controller/trainer for 2-14th Cav. during exercise Lightning Forge.

# Warrior Brigade takes on exercise Lightning Forge 2016

Story and photos by  
**SGT. IAN IVES**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS** — On Feb. 1, Soldiers of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, began training exercise Lightning Forge 2016 across military training areas throughout Hawaii.

Exercise Lightning Forge is a home station combined training certification that validates that the 2nd BCT is prepared to conduct light infantry operations throughout the Pacific. The exercise marks the first time the unit has trained at the brigade scale since starting the

transition from a Stryker Brigade late last year. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd BCT, played a pivotal role during Lightning Forge 2016 as it was tasked with the mission of establishing and operating the brigade's tactical operations center (TOC), which serves as the primary control center for conducting operations.

"The main focus of (the company) is the build-up of light infantry readiness," said Capt. Dave Zelaya, battle captain for HHC. "To do this, we have to ingrain like culture into every battalion and every Soldier in the brigade for the transition to a light infantry unit."

The way the brigade TOC works in conjunction with its subordinate battalions is by sending commands and information down to battalion TOCs, and then tracking the resulting actions. By doing this, the brigade TOC can ensure its units are meeting the brigade and division commanders' intent.

"This exercise will help by creating adaptive, rehearsed and refined warfighting functions to enable future success once we completely switch to a light infantry unit," said Staff Sgt. Michael Pytel, HHC.

Ensuring that junior Soldiers within the unit are competent in their tasks is a must during this transition to a light infantry brigade.

"Junior Soldiers need to know that every Soldier plays a vital role and has an affect on the overall mission,"

said Pytel. "Whether it is placing concertina wire or assaulting an objective, they have an impact on his or her unit's success."

Following the success of Lightning Forge, the unit must now prepare for the final step of transitioning by going to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., next year.



Infantrymen with Co. B, 1-21st Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, lock their sights on enemy role players, Feb. 5, at Bellows Training Area. The main purpose of exercise Lightning Forge is to certify 2nd BCT's ability to transition from a Stryker brigade to a light infantry brigade. (These two photos have been combined and modified. Background elements have been removed.)

# Watercraft engineers are Soldiers who make it happen

Story and photo by  
**SGT. JON HEINRICH**  
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

**KAHULUI, Maui** — Commonly seen aboard military vessels are the bridge and deck crews, who may be thought of as the operators who keep it moving. In reality, they are the engineers behind the scenes who maintain the vessel and allow it to function and fulfill its mission.

For the watercraft engineers of Logistical Support Vessel-2, the CW3 Harold C. Clinger, maintaining an LSV is a never-ending job with many challenges and rewards.

"Being an engineer is great and very rewarding," said Staff Sgt. David Compton, a junior marine engineer with 605th Transportation Detachment, 545th Trans. Company, 8th Theater Sustainment Command. "If it weren't for us (engineers), none of these missions would happen."

Compton said that the vessel requires constant monitoring while underway since the engines, generators and pipes could fail at anytime.

"We'll think everything is going great, running fine, and then all of a sudden something will break, and we have to fix it," Compton said.

As the squad leader of the vessel's engineers, Compton is in charge of seven Soldiers, one of whom, Spc. Feider Pena, has only been doing

this job for two years. "I feel that with the boat, you'll get more experience than with a vehicle," Pena said. "You'll get more systems to work on."

Pena, a watercraft engineer with 605th Trans. Det., said he took on his military occupational



Spc. Jose Hernandez, watercraft engineer, 163rd Trans. Det., 545th Trans. Co., 8th TSC, checks the fuel line valves in the engine room of LSV2 CW3 Harold C. Clinger, Saturday, off the shore of Kahului, Maui.

specialty because he likes working with his hands and fixing things.

"While underway, we're in charge of taking readings on all systems, auxiliary and propulsion, to see if anything's wrong," Pena said. "If there is, we try to fix it. If we can't fix it, we'll bring it up to other qualified personnel."

In addition to maintaining and repairing equipment on the vessel, the engineers train regularly on controlling the boat via a makeshift bridge in the engine room, should the need arise.

In a crew of only 12 Soldiers comprised of chief warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted Soldiers, the engineers must work in shifts in order to maintain the vessel properly.

"When something breaks and we're able to react quickly, fix it and keep the boat moving, then it's a good feeling. It's only 12 of us on the boat who keep it running, and we can do it all on our own without outside help," Compton said.

Overall, both engineers agree they love their job, even if for different reasons.

While Pena said he likes being able to visit new places within the Pacific theater, Compton said he enjoys the self-reward of an accomplished mission.





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www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com  
Nondelivery or distribution  
656-3155 or 656-3488

Contributing Commands  
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# Director sends Presidents’ Day message



Altendorf

**DR. CHRISTINE T. ALTENDORF**  
Region Director  
U.S. Army Installation Management Command-Pacific

On Monday, we observe Presidents’ Day, originally to commemorate the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and now to honor all of our presidents.

The forecast for this weekend is for mostly sunny skies, making this long holiday weekend a great opportunity for Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and family members to

enjoy the many outdoor activities of Hawaii.

The risk of being involved in an accident is greater on holiday weekends, especially for drivers. Accidents aren’t always the result of poor driving skills; they can happen from fatigue, alcohol or inattentive drivers texting or speaking on cell phones.

To reduce the chance of injury or worse, always wear your seat belt and ensure your passengers, especially children, are buckled-up. Defensive driving is the key to not becoming another statistic.

Driving isn’t the only activity that needs accident prevention; a long holiday weekend with beautiful weather brings out the barbecues and deep fryers, along with campfires and trips to the beach. Practice safety whenever fire is involved, and don’t hike or swim in restricted areas.

Accident prevention is a personal decision, influenced by individual attitude. Leaders should encourage their personnel to practice safety to prevent accidents.

My wish is for you to have a safe and happy Presidents’ Day weekend with friends and family.

## Police Call

# DES details ‘Real ID’ access to DoD installations

**COL. DUANE R. MILLER**  
Director, Emergency Services  
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and  
Commander, 8th Military Police Brigade,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

You might have seen some media coverage over the past few weeks regarding the Real ID Act. Although not heavily covered, this act has some implications regarding access to federal installations.

So, what is the Real ID Act of 2005 and why are we talking about it in 2016?

The Real ID Act was passed in 2005 based on recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. The basic premise behind the act was to ensure that state drivers’ licenses or identification cards, although issued by the states directly, complied with federal ID standards.

These standards identify what documents must be presented and electronically stored prior to the issuance of a DL/ID, what information needs to be displayed on the card, the technology the card is encoded with and the accessibility/sharing of information through



Miller

databases.

The long and arduous process of implementation of these requirements takes us to the present. Last month, the DoD was required to comply with the Real ID Act for access onto military installations.

In total, there are currently 23 states/districts/territories in compliance with the Act (*including Hawaii*) and 23 states that have approved extensions through the summer/fall of this year. The issue is those states/territories that are non-compliant or not under an approved extension.

Currently, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico and Washington State have no approved implementation extension while American Samoa and Minnesota are identified as non-compliant.

Understanding that many members of our community may have family visiting over the course of any

given year, the DES is postponing the implementation of the requirement until May 1 to allow personnel to notify visitors of the requirements.

The Real ID requirements, when fully implemented on May 1, will only affect those attempting to have unescorted access on to U.S. Army installations. As the implementation date grows closer, we will provide additional information in regards to visitor access onto our installations.

### Real ID Act and DES

For the most current information concerning state-by-state compliance with the Real ID Act, visit [www.dhs.gov/current-status-states-territories](http://www.dhs.gov/current-status-states-territories).

For information on DES, visit [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/des/default.htm](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/des/default.htm)



## POLICE BEAT ROLL-UP (The following occurred on U.S. Army Hawaii installations and off-post, Jan. 15-29.)

### Aliamanu Military Reservation

- 1- Abuse of family or household members
- 3- Domestic disturbance without an assault
- 1- Theft in the first degree

### Fort Shafter

- 1- Temporary restraining order
- 2- Duty upon striking
- 1- Theft in the first degree

### Fort Derussy/Hale Koa

- 1- Unlawful entry into motor vehicle in the first degree
- 1- Found contraband/drug paraphernalia

### Hawaii Armed Services Police

- 10- Operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant
- 1- Assault in the third degree

### Tripler Army Medical Center

- 1- Accident involving damage to vehicle or property
- 1- Inattention to driving

### Schofield Barracks

- 1- Traffic accident with bodily injury
- 1- Traffic accident resulting in damage to private property
- 1- Consumption of alcohol under the age of 21
- 1- Wrongful damaging to private property
- 3- Domestic disturbance without assault
- 2- Damage to private property
- 3- Operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant
- 2- Suicidal ideation
- 1- Driving under the influence, with personal injury
- 1- Domestic disturbance with assault
- 1- Registered sex offender

- 2- Traffic accident resulting in damage to government property
- 1- Larceny of private property
- 1- Shoplifting
- 1- Wrongful possession of other drugs
- 1- Assault consummated by battery
- 2- No driver’s license
- 1- Wrongful damaging to private property
- 1- Expired registration
- 1- Failure to maintain lane
- 1- No current safety
- 1- Larceny of private property
- 1- Unlawful entry
- 1- Larceny of Exchange property
- 1- Domestic disturbance without assault
- 1- Burglary
- 1- Assault
- 1- Burglary in the second degree
- 1- Duty upon striking

## FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

# Chronic worrying can be most harmful to your health

### CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) JAMES FRYER

84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

As the majority of 2016 remains, there’s ample opportunity to reflect on goals and plans for how you can help evaluate self-levels of worry this year.

*“...Worrying can affect the body in ways that may surprise you. When worrying becomes excessive, it can lead to feelings of high anxiety and even cause you to be physically ill ... Chronic worrying can affect your daily life so much that it may interfere with your appetite, lifestyle habits, relationships, sleep and job performance. Many people who worry excessively are so anxiety-ridden that they seek relief in harmful lifestyle habits, such as overeating, smoking, or using alcohol and drugs.” — webMD.com*

It is not any indication of weakness if you realize you need to do a “roadside check” to see how things are going, or to actually admit that you need to change. In other words, at times, every soul needs to pause



Fryer

and reflect on concerns of the heart.

These matters can consume the inner life of an individual causing physical symptoms to arise. These can be warning signs of something beneath the surface.

*“Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” — Matthew 6:21*

If you have worries that wear on you over present or future matters, beware that such anxieties do not take their toll on you. Without proper self-care, matters of the heart, such as attitude, perception, emotional or mental health may become worn down.

Certainly, many things compete for our attention. As temptations to worry occur, one may find the need for spiritual direction. Be careful of making the temporary things you pursue, acquire, rent or pay for the

treasures of your heart. The shiny and enticing materials, even advancements or pleasures of the world can ensnare your heart and keep you from all that is.

The old hymn “It is Well with My Soul” was written by Horatio Spafford in 1873. Spafford was financially ruined by the 1871 Great Chicago Fire and had failed at a significant business proposition. He sent his wife and four daughters on ahead of him to Europe by ship, on a luxury steamer, the Ville du Havre.

In the middle of the Atlantic, the ship collided with a British sailing ship, the Lockheart. The steamer sank with 226 lives lost. His wife, Anna, was rescued, but their four daughters drowned. Spafford received a horrible telegram from his wife stating, “Saved alone.”

Crossing the Atlantic to be with his wife, Spafford penned the words to the beloved hymn, giving an expression of his faith.

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll;  
whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.”*



## Getting it Straight

In the last issue of the “Hawaii Army Weekly,” at the top of the front page, the photo of the “opposing force humvee,” in the center, was incorrectly credited. The photographer was 1st Lt. Nathan Sitterley, plans officer, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. Sitterly is the 3-4th Cav. unit public affairs representative.

# Voices of Ohana

This Sunday is Valentine’s Day, so we asked,  
“What is the most romantic thing you have done for Valentine’s Day?”

By Sgt. Ian Ives, 2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division



“Sending my wife to New Orleans by herself, all expenses paid for, so that she could relax and get pampered.”

Chief Warrant Officer  
Michael J. Barnes Jr.  
HHCB,  
2nd BCT, 25th ID



“I was in Hawaii and flew from here to my home in Fort Bragg, N.C., to have dinner and spend six hours with the love of my life before she deployed to Afghanistan, then I flew back the next day.”

1st Lt. Miranda Doss  
HHCB,  
2nd BCT, 25th ID



“Before my wife and I got engaged, I got off work earlier and spent the whole day buying flowers and cooking her Greek food; she is Greek. When she got home, I had our table set up with flowers and a Greek dinner.”

Spc. Herbert Mack  
HHCB,  
2nd BCT, 25th ID



“You have to make your date feel special, like cook his favorite food and take him for a long walk on the beach. That is what I did.”

Spc. Ashley  
Williams, HHC,  
1-14th Inf. Regt.,  
2nd BCT, 25th ID



“I took my date out to dinner and then I laid a mattress in the bed of my truck, and we watched the stars.”

Spc. Richard Wood  
Co. B, 1-14th Inf.  
Regt., 2nd BCT,  
25th ID



# 7 new changes to impact NCOERs, promotions

## In Part Two, Basic and Master Leader courses grow leaders’ careers

**AMY L. HAVILAND**  
Army News Service

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — Noncommissioned officers can expect more changes coming soon regarding professional development, said Command Sgt. Maj. David S. Davenport Sr., U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command’s senior enlisted adviser.

These changes are part of a larger effort called the NCO 2020 strategy, which, according to Davenport’s blog, “represents an analytical, data-driven process for evolving the Non-commissioned Officer Education System of today into the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System (NCOPDS) of tomorrow.”

Below is the second of three parts about the Basic, Master and Executive Leader courses, along with advice from Davenport on how NCOs can prepare and what to expect.

**3. Basic Leader Course**

*Why it’s important:* The Basic Leader Course, previously called the Warrior Leader Course, teaches noncommissioned officers the foundation of what they need to know, and be able to do, as NCOs.

*What’s changed:* In addition to the name change, which will benefit Soldiers as they transition from the Army, Davenport said there will be drastic changes to BLC, including a required written communication assessment that will follow Soldiers throughout their career. This assessment will determine each NCO’s proficiency in listening and verbal and written communication skills at each level of professional military education, or PME.

“At every NCOPDS course, they will build on that assessment,” Davenport said. “They will get reassessed and we can see their progress, or lack of progress, as they move forward.”

Additionally, there will also be changes to the Service School Academic Evaluation Report, more commonly known as the Department of the Army Form 1059.

“You may be tracking that we retooled the 1059,” Davenport added. “We’re going to start putting grade point averages on there, enu-

meration of class standing, as well as height, weight and (Army Physical Fitness Test) data, so it truly will be a picture of performance as you attend NCOPDS, or PME courses.”

*Bottom line:* Davenport said all the subjects in BLC are currently “on the table,” as leaders look at ways to improve the course.

“We’re looking at really getting back to what we need noncommissioned officers to be able to do,” he said. “What are those core competencies, those knowledge, skills and attributes that we want our sergeants to have.”

**4. Master Leader Course**

*Why it’s important:* The Master Leader Course fills the PME gap between the Senior Leader Course and the Sergeants Major Academy – a gap that could potentially last several years. The second, and perhaps more important reason, is that it’s required for promotion.

“With the implementation of STEP (Select, Train, Educate, Promote), if you’re going to get promoted to master sergeant, STEP created a requirement that you have to have the formal PME (the ‘E’ in STEP) before you can pin on master sergeant rank,” Davenport said.

*What’s changed:* “It’s not the old first sergeant course of days gone by at Fort Bliss, Texas,” Davenport said. “It’s really about beginning the transition from the tactical level to the operational level. And, it’s about having a bigger understanding of how the Army runs.

“It’s not necessarily the administrative tasks that they may have heard about in the old first sergeant course,” Davenport explained. “Remember, master sergeants can be both primary staff NCOs, and they can be selected to be first sergeants, so we want to make sure there’s balance within the course.”

*Bottom line:* *NCOs need to be prepared.*

“We’re not wasting time in the classroom to catch everyone up,” he said. “In the self-development domain, you’ve been given the read-ahead assignments, and it’s expected that you do the coursework before coming to the course.”

Davenport said students should go online, before they attend the Master Leader Course, and read the required materials provided by the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

*(Editor’s Note: Haviland works with U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. In Part Three, next week, final comments are provided about opportunities, Army University and the Executive Leader Course.)*



Art courtesy of Hawaiian Electric Company

An artist’s sketch shows the proposed 50-megawatt, multi-fuel, biofuel-capable power plant.

## Army power plant proposed

**U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII**  
Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Department of the Army announced the signing of a “record of decision” to proceed with Hawaiian Electric’s construction and operation of a 50-megawatt biofuel-capable power generation plant, here.

The selected action is to lease land and grant easements on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield to HECO for the company to construct, own, operate and maintain a 50-megawatt (MW) capacity, biofuel-capable generating station, referred to as the Schofield Generating Station, and associated power poles, high-tension power lines and related equipment and facilities.

The selected action was the preferred alternative identified in the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed project. The record of decision explains the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts associated with the construction and operation of the station and associated infrastructure, none of which were determined to be significant adverse effects.

The selected action will provide improved energy security for the Army and citizens of Oahu; support renewable energy goals; and improve future electrical generation capabilities on Oahu by providing new secure, firm, dispatchable, flexible and renewable energy

generation to the grid on Oahu.

Implementation of the selected action will not result in significant impacts. The Army and HECO will employ best management practices to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects.

The Army’s decision incorporates analysis contained in the final EIS for the proposed project, which considered all comments provided during formal comment and review periods. The decision also considered all comments provided on the final EIS during the formal waiting period.

The Army determined that the waiting period comments did not constitute significant new information relevant to environmental concerns, and therefore supplementation of the analysis in the EIS was not required.

The final EIS was reviewed by the executive director of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, which made the decision to proceed with the selected action.

**ROD & EIS**

The record of decision and final EIS are available at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/schofieldplant](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/schofieldplant).



# New tax form provided to fill out 2015 federal taxes

**TERRI MOON CRONK**  
DoD News  
Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON — Defense Department civilian and military personnel will begin receiving Internal Revenue Service Form 1095 to help them accurately complete health coverage questions on their 2015 federal tax returns, DoD’s principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for health affairs recently told DoD News.

Previously, taxpayers self-attested their health coverage to the IRS in 2015 as part of the Affordable Care Act, Dr. Karen Guice said.

This is the first year DoD is responsible for notifying the IRS of its military and civilian employees’ health care insurance participation through Form 1095.

“DoD has done a really good job coordinating all of this with the IRS,” Guice said.

She said the DoD will make sure its military members and civilians receive physical forms beginning Jan. 31.

The form already is available via MyPay for those who electronically receive their tax forms.

**What to expect**

Service members will receive an IRS Form 1095-B or 1095-C for their TRICARE coverage. Military retirees and annuitants will get Form 1095-B. DoD civilians will receive a Form 1095-C from their Pay Center and a 1095-B from their Federal Employee Health Benefit carrier if they purchased FEHBP coverage during 2015.

It’s expected Continued Health Care Benefit Program enrollees will receive their 1095-B forms from Humana, Guice said. Additionally, DoD employees who use their spouse’s nongovernment health insurance coverage should check with their spouse’s health insurance carrier about receiving their 1095, she added.

**Check 1095 for accuracy**

Taxpayers should review their 1095 forms for accuracy before filing their federal taxes, Guice said. Any incorrect information for filers and their family members, such as home addresses and Social Security numbers, should be reported to MyPay, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, personnel offices and the Defense En-

rollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS.

She stressed the 1095 forms are not filed with a federal tax return, but taxpayers should keep any 1095 forms with their personal federal tax records.

**Why Form 1095 is important**

The Affordable Care Act mandates that all Americans must have access to basic health insurance. TRICARE and all plans offered by the FEHB program meet the ACA standards for minimum essential coverage, Guice noted. And because coverage compliance is reported to the IRS, noncompliance can result in IRS penalties.

“We don’t want people caught in the penalty phase,” Guice said. “We want to avoid that at all costs.”

**If losing TRICARE or FEHB coverage**

In the upcoming year, people should keep in mind they can sign up for coverage any time they have a life-changing event, such as a marriage, birth of a baby or a change in employment and other events, Guice said.

Service members who plan to separate from the military in the next year, but not retire, will be responsible for signing up for coverage, she said, particularly if their new employer does not offer health care insurance. She encouraged those who lose TRICARE or FEHBP coverage to evaluate their post-DoD health care options.

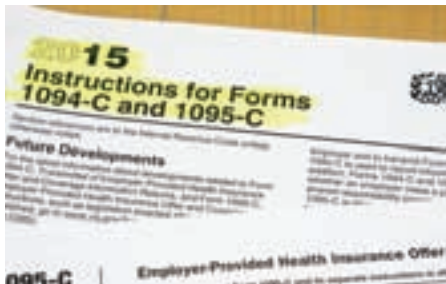


Photo by Christine Cabalo, Oahu Publications

**The Department of Defense is urging the public to check their 1095 forms for proper tax filing. This is the first year the DoD has been in charge of reminding people about needing accurate information in compliance with the Affordable Care Act.**



**Eddie Would Go** — The Hawaii Department of Transportation is postponing planned lane closures, today, on Kamehameha Highway along Oahu’s North Shore in anticipation of thousands of people venturing to Waimea Bay to watch the surf tournament in memory of Eddie Aikau. No lane closures on the Karsten Thot Bridge in Wahiawa today. Be patient, drive safely and expect delays. For details see <http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/roadwork/>.

**Kubo Closure** — Intermittent, 24-hour road closures continue at Fort Shafter’s Kubo Street, near Bldg. T-123, until Feb. 19. Intermittent road closures will follow weekdays, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Feb. 22-May 13.

This construction work will occupy Kubo from Bldg. T-126 to the intersection of Kubo and Funston Road at Bldg. 12. Kubo Street and the adjacent park-

ing lot will be restricted to contractor equipment for the duration of work in Area X.

Palm Circle Drive and Richardson Street will be accessible to the public by means of Hyland Lane.

**15 / Monday**

**Williston Detour** — There will be a road closure on Schofield’s Williston Avenue between Cadet Sheridan Road to Reilly Avenue. Parking lots on Williston will still be accessible. Traffic will be detoured.

Work occurs weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., until April 4, unless weekends are needed.

**Revised Trimble & Maili** — Road closures at Schofield’s Trimble Road and Maili Street continue. Phase IV-A restricts traffic in both lanes on Mali, from the intersection of Trimble/Mali to Leader Court, today. A detour around the intersection will be provided.

**16 / Tuesday**

**Menoher Road** — There will be a road closure at Schofield’s Menoher Road, between Hewitt and Carpenter streets, weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., until Feb. 23. Traffic will be stopped for pedestrians to walk around the work area. Workers will be installing a water line.



**COLA Survey** — In 2015, the cost of living allowance for active duty military personnel in Hawaii significantly decreased on three out of four islands, so many questions have been raised about the COLA determination process.

All service members need to take the survey before March 1. In early 2014, only 4,800 out of 49,680 assigned active duty personnel in Hawaii participated in the survey. More Soldiers must participate in this survey in order to get good data.

Visit [www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/lps-hawaii.cfm](http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/lps-hawaii.cfm).

**Power Plant** — The Army announced the signing of a “record of decision” to proceed with Hawaiian Electric’s construction and operation of a 50-megawatt biofuel-capable power generation plant at Schofield Barracks. The record of decision and final EIS are available at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/schofieldplant](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/schofieldplant). Read this news on p. A-3.

**FEHB** — Enrollment changes in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, outside of open season enrollees, are allowed for the Self Plus One option until Feb. 29, given this addition of a new enrollment type. For more, see [www.opm.gov/selfplusone](http://www.opm.gov/selfplusone) or [www.abc.army.mil/health/Self-plusone.htm](http://www.abc.army.mil/health/Self-plusone.htm).

**Polytrauma** — The VA’s

Polytrauma System of Care has hit the one million mark in screening veterans for Traumatic Brain Injury, often regarded as one of the signature injuries of combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. TBI symptoms such as severe headaches, memory loss, reduced executive functioning and tinnitus can range from manageable to seriously disabling, potentially limiting a veteran’s ability to work and manage daily living.

For more information, see [www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2745](http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2745).

**VAPIHCS** — The VA’s Pacific Island Health Care System (VAPIHCS) said, last week, that 596 homeless veterans on Oahu were permanently housed in 2015 as a result of collaboration between the VAPIHCS, Partners in Care and the Homeless Veterans Task Force. Read the entire news release at [www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com](http://www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com) or call 433-0049.

**16 / Tuesday**

**ASIST** — Learn to be a more willing, capable and confident caregiver to those having thoughts of suicide. Become an Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training “lifeguard” in this two-day suicide first aid workshop open to all military, civilian, ombudsmen and adult family members, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Military and Family Support Center. Call 474-1999.

**19 / Friday**

**Black History** — Celebrate African-American history with the Tropic Lightning Division and the U.S. Army-Hawaii Team Equal Opportunity/EEO, 1 p.m., in Schofield’s Sgt. Smith Theater (north) and Feb. 24 at noon in Tripler’s Kyser Auditorium (south). For details about the events, call 438-4962.



# CAB sharpens 25th’s Signal skills with rigorous ‘rodeo’

**SPC. TINITA TAYLOR**  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade  
Public Affairs  
25th Infantry Division

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, began the New Year by holding a Signal Rodeo consisting of six events that targeted the military occupational specialty 25U, Signal Support Systems Specialist.

The rodeo was open to those with the MOS in the division. Events included a 6-mile march with a 30-pound rucksack, basic knowledge on combat network radios, a 1-mile ruck in a protective mask, calling in a 9-line medevac, installing an OE254 antenna set and physical training.

Soldiers took on the high intensity competitive events that demanded each team of four complete each task in a timely manner.

“These events give the Soldiers an opportunity to use little resources

and maximize the time and people to accomplish a bigger task,” said Capt. Alexander Diaz-Martinez, commander, Charlie Company, 209th Avn. Support Battalion.

“Signal is mostly support. We go out with the infantry and different combat units. The same stress and demand that is put on them, we should be able to endure,” said Sgt. 1st Class James Garner Jr. in Co. C. “The important thing is to get the Soldiers used to being in control of a battlefield.”

After all tasks of the rodeo were completed, a team from 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 3rd Bde. Combat Team, took home the first place trophy.

“These events will keep the Soldiers sharp. They are a perishable skill if you don’t do it on a day-in, day-out basis; it’s going to get wasted,” said Sgt. Maj. Michael Helton, senior enlisted adviser, 25th ID communications. “With an event like this today, it gives the Soldiers a chance to fine-tune their skills.”



A team from the Tropic Lightning Division competes in the final run portion of the Signal Rodeo, shown here along the runway at WAAF.

# Air Force daughter re-ups Army mother aboard Navy ship



Photo by Lt. Col. Jamie Cogbill, 205th Military Intelligence Battalion

**Sgt. Deannie Lew, MI systems maintainer/integrator, Co. A, 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Bde., addresses friends and family aboard the USS Missouri, Jan. 28, after her daughter, Air Force 2nd Lt. Samantha Matlock-Williams, administered the oath of re-enlistment. Matlock-Williams, an intelligence officer with USAF National Reconnaissance Operations, traveled 4,000 miles to perform the first re-enlistment of her career for her mom.**

**CAPT. GEORGE GURROLA AND SGT. SHAN'DRAYA RUTHERFORD**  
205th Military Intelligence Battalion  
500th MI Brigade

FORT SHAFTER — Retaining high-quality Soldiers is a mission for the 205th Military Intelligence Battalion; however, re-enlistments are nothing new.

Still, it is not every day that a re-enlisting noncommissioned officer’s administering officer is her very own daughter.

Sgt. Deannie Lew, MI systems maintainer/integrator from Company A, 205th MI Bn., 500th MI Brigade, held a re-enlistment ceremony aboard the battleship U.S.S. Missouri, Jan. 28.

Lew, a mid-career Soldier from Seattle, Wash., wanted her re-enlistment to be about family, fulfilling a long-term goal and providing a junior officer the experience of a lifetime.

Air Force 2nd Lt. Samantha Matlock-Williams, intelligence officer, National Reconnaissance Operations, and Lew’s daughter, traveled 4,000 miles to support her mother.

“As a parent you want your child to do better than you. Now, look at my daughter,” Lew said. “She is a commissioned officer and re-enlisting me.”

Two years ago, Lew rendered the first salute to Matlock-Williams when she was commissioned.

“My first re-enlistment was very special to me, and it was really nice to share these junior officer milestones with my mother,” Matlock-Williams said.

Also present at the re-enlistment ceremony was a small group of Alpha Co. Soldiers, battalion commander Lt. Col. James Cogbill, Command Sgt. Maj. David Brasher, and the Co. A command team of Capt. Zachary Watson and 1st Sgt. James Ewald. Their mentorship and guidance resulted in Sgt. Lew completing a long-term goal of serving in Korea.

“This was such an incredible and beautiful moment. I am happy that my section and command team were available to share it with me,” said Sgt. Lew.

The re-enlistment involving family, command support and coordination with two different branches of the armed services is representative of the joint environment and relationships fostered in the Pacific.

The 205th MI Bn. retention team has led the way in re-enlisting and successfully transitioning highly-qualified Soldiers.

*(Editor’s note: Gurrola is the public affairs officer and Sgt. Shan’Draya Rutherford is the battalion retention NCO for the 205th MI.)*





Lion dancers from the Yeung Dak Lion and Dragon Dance Association accept a traditional red money packet, or lai see, from one of hundreds in the crowd. The association also played traditional music and lit firecrackers during the celebration.

# Monthly festival opens doors to local culture and art

## Chinatown’s booming arts community hosts

Story and photos by  
**CHRISTINE CABALO**  
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — Find the perfect match of artistry and community every month at First Fridays in the heart of downtown Honolulu. “First Fridays have been the cornerstone of the arts district, back when there were only a few art galleries in the neighborhood,” said Sandy Pohl, who manages the Louis Pohl Gallery, named for her late husband. “It’s gotten harder to do as rents are going up.”

**Clubs, restaurants and art**

Although the event began in 2003 with Chinatown art galleries staying open later for the public, surrounding restaurants and clubs have also opened up at night to offer specials to the gathered crowds.

Yet, the soul of the event is still the art and artists, with different exhibits featured every month.

Many local artists said the monthly activity helps connect the public to new art and to local supporting institutions.

For some, First Fridays are their first date with the Hawaii State Art Museum (HISAM), said Scott Young, the visitor services manager at HISAM. Young said HISAM ensures their first impression is a good one, with a free concert while the gallery is open in the evening.

“Our hope is, people come for the musical entertainment, but realize there’s this treasure trove of art,” Young said. “This is their art, a collection for the people of Hawaii. You can come hear the music, come see the art, then come back later and bring friends.”

All of the artwork featured at HISAM has a connection to Hawaii, featuring modern art whose artists and subjects are tied to the islands.

The galleries feature local artists in a friendly



Art lovers look through the pottery and other works of art at the Hawaii State Art Museum during First Friday, Feb. 5. The museum is free to visit Tuesday through Saturday and features art-work that has unique Hawaii ties.

setting during First Friday. Visitors to the Chinatown Artists Lofts can meet artists in the very spaces where they live and create their work. Artists and the public can share each gallery’s free refreshments and their love of art.

“The receptions (on First Friday) give people the opportunity to meet artists as real people who tell their story in paintings and pottery,” Pohl said. “My husband used to say, ‘In every person, there is an artist inside them.’”

**Spirit of community**

The showcased artwork is in a variety of shapes and styles, emerging in pottery, paintings, photographs and other media.

Pohl said the artists featured at the Louis Pohl Gallery are passionate teachers, giving back to Hawaii.

She said the spirit of community at First Fridays is something her husband would have loved. Louis Pohl, a World War II Navy veteran, would spend hours teaching and chatting with fellow art enthusiasts.

The galleries often share a monthly theme, with February’s First Friday showcasing many creations inspired by Chinese New Year and celebrating the year of the monkey.

Several local traditional Chinese performance arts groups were also on the street, lighting fireworks, playing music and celebrating with traditional lion dancing.

“First Friday is a good way to run into a lot of local diversity,” said Rich Richardson, executive director of the Hawaii Academy of Performing Arts, who hosts exhibits at The ARTS at Mark’s Garage. “(We’re in a) pedestrian neighborhood, so you can abandon the car and walk to enjoy the art and new boutiques. This is a unique urban celebration.”

Several of the First Friday gallery managers said, although First Friday provides an initial spark of interest, it can blossom into a lifelong love of other art programs that can be found in downtown Honolulu.

Pohl said the pulse of First Fridays is having the chance to spend time with friends enjoying art and catching up on life. “My husband was a great listener who shared his life through art,” Pohl said. “Life is art.”

**Discover First Fridays online**

Find art you adore at First Fridays. Every month, art galleries, museums and surrounding businesses in downtown Honolulu stay open late on First Friday. A complete list of events and an interactive map is available at [www.firstfridayhawaii.com](http://www.firstfridayhawaii.com).

**Galleries**

First Friday galleries will have extended hours, from 6 to 9 p.m., and feature special events including the following:

- **Hawaii State Art Museum, 250 S. Hotel St.**  
James McCarthy plays Irish folk and rock music in a free concert.
- **Louis Pohl Gallery, 1142 Bethel St.**  
The gallery will feature Japanese ikebana pottery in both traditional and modern avant-garde styles. Several artists will be featured, including Ken Kang.
- **Chinatown Artists Lofts, 1126 Smith St.**  
Individual artists living and working at the lofts will open their studios to visitors. Among the artists currently featured in the lofts are Professor Pandemonium, Eric West and photographer Jen May Pastores.
- **The ARTS at Mark’s Garage, 1159 Nuuanu Ave.**  
Check out mosaics in the March exhibit “Strata Layers of Earth and Time.”



Lion dancers from the Yeung Dak Lion and Dragon Dance Association perform for crowds along Pauahi Street, Feb. 5. The lion dancers lit firecrackers and collected traditional red money packets called lai see.



Professor Pandemonium, Eric West, shows young art lovers his newest piece of art, a monkey that does magic tricks. West is one of several artists creating new work at the Chinatown Artists Lofts, which opened for visitors during First Friday.





Briefs

Today

**Parenting 101** — This ACS class highlights current best practices and provides parents with tips and tools to assist them in reaching their parenting goals, noon-1 p.m., at SB ACS Bldg. 2091. Call 655-4227.

13 / Saturday

**Singles Appreciation Day** — Tired of making a fuss over Valentine’s Day? Come celebrate your freedom at SB Tropics Anti-Valentine’s Day Party, 6-8 p.m.

Join the party where hearts, Cupid, the color red and public displays of affection are banned and black clothing is encouraged. Test your knowledge of former celebrity couples and write the worst break-up letter. Win prizes, eat un-festive snacks and listen to the play lists of the best break-up songs. Call 655-5698.

14 / Sunday

**Sunday Brunch** — Savor roasted prime rib with a peppercorn and garlic crust, along with exquisite dishes infused from the Pacific Rim, Asia and Hawaii Nouveau at the FS Hale Ikena. Groups and large parties are welcome.

Meal is served from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and reservations are recommended. Adults are \$24.95 and children’s prices are available. Call 438-1974.

15 / Monday

**Mongolian BBQ** — Join SB Kolekole Bar and Grill, Mondays, for Mongolian barbecue, 5-8 p.m. Select your favorite meat and vegetables and have it grilled your way at only 65-cents per ounce. Call 655-0660.

16 / Tuesday

**Infant Massage Class** — This ACS five-week course on infant massage meets Tuesdays, 6:30-7 p.m. Learn about the power of touch in bonding with your baby, the benefits of massage in circulation, digestion and emotional well-being. Located at SB ACS, Bldg. 2091. To register, call 655-4227.

17 / Wednesday

**Black History at FS Library** — Celebrate Harriet Tubman’s role in history, 3:30 p.m., at FS Library. Make a poster that features a famous Tubman

community calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

**Scholarships for Military Children Program** — Apply today because the application deadline is Feb. 12 for eligible students at commissaries worldwide or on the Internet at www.militaryscholar.org. A total of 700 scholarship grants, each worth \$2,000, will be awarded for the 2016-17 school year.

Applicants must be a dependent, unmarried child, younger than 21 – or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university – of a service member on active duty, a Reserve or Guard member, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty, or a survivor of a retiree.

Applications must be hand-delivered or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods to the commissary where the applicant’s family normally shops by close of business Feb. 12. Applications cannot be emailed or faxed.

**Great Aloha Run Expo** — The 25th ID will participate in this year’s GAR Expo, beginning today, 4-9 p.m., at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall with an MRAP All-Terrain Vehicle and

SUNDAY AT SCHOFIELD

**NEHELANI**  
**VALENTINE'S DAY**  
*Dinner*  
**NEHELANI CONFERENCE & BANQUET CENTER**  
February 14, 2016 | 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
*\$29.95 per person*

Don't fight the Valentine's Day rush this year, stay close to home and dine at the Nehelani. Choose from flavorful seafood dishes, traditional plates and don't forget dessert. Call 655-0660 to reserve your seat!

*Limited seating available. Please purchase your tickets in advance to guarantee your seat. Seating begins at 5:00 p.m. on the half hour until 7:30 p.m.*

*\*Food images are only a representation of actual product served.*

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS** — Sunday night celebrate Valentine’s Day at the Schofield Nehelani Conference and Banquet Center with a sumptuous special dinner. Service begins at 5 p.m. with a choice of surf and turf, fresh poultry or pan seared island fresh snapper. Crème brûlée is featured for dessert. Visit [www.hiMWR.com](http://www.hiMWR.com) for details.

phrase. Call 438-9521.

**Keiki Night** — Every Wednesday night is Keiki Night at SB Kolekole Bar and Grill. Kids under 10 eat for only \$2.99 from the keiki menu.

18 / Thursday

**Community Readiness Expo** — New to Hawaii? The USARHAW Community Readiness Expo is held 9 a.m.-noon, at the SB Nehelani. Learn about Army community resources from service agency representatives at this weekly interactive orientation without briefings. Call ACS at 655-4227.

**Scream Free Parenting** — This three-week series introduces new concepts about parenting, noon-1

p.m., SB ACS, Bldg. 2091. For more information or to register, call 655-4227.

19 / Friday

**Employment Orientation** — Learn about the Hawaii job market and take advantage of the free tools and resources available, 10-11:30 a.m., SB ACS Bldg. 2091. Start networking and receive information on private sector, federal and state hiring opportunities. Call 655-4227.

20 / Saturday

**Parent’s Night Out** — Need a break? Leave your children in a safe environment and register them for Parent’s Night Out, 6-11 p.m., at Bowen Child Development Center, and SB School Age Center. For more details or to register, visit a CYSS Par-

ent Central Service Office at SB, Bldg. 1283, 241 Hewitt St., or call 655-5314. Or, visit AMR, Bldg. 1782, Bougainvillea Loop, or call 833-5393.

Ongoing

**Tropics** — The new SB Tropics Recreation Center is now open after an extensive renovation. The high-energy recreation facility offers gaming, state-of-the-art entertainment, food and beverages. Hours as follows:  
•Sundays, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
•Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, closed.  
•Thursdays, 4- 10 p.m., and  
•Fridays-Saturdays, 4 p.m.- midnight. Call 655-5698.

at <http://greataloharun.com>.

16 / Tuesday

**Family Night** — Enjoy AMR family gatherings at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the AMR Chapel. This broad-ranging Christian program features fellowship and Bible study from 6:15-7:30 p.m. Child care is provided. Call AMR Chapel at 839-4319.

Schofield Family Night is held Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

19 / Friday

**African-American/Black History Month North** — 25th ID and Team U.S. Army Hawaii Equal Opportunity sponsor this observance, 1 p.m., SB Sgt. Smith Theater. The guest speaker is Col. Charles D. Mills, commander, 5th Battlefield Coordination Detachment.

24 / Wednesday

**African-American/Black History Month South** — TAMC hosts this observance, noon, Kyser Auditorium.

26 / Friday

**Native Hawaiian Concert Series** — Leilehua Golf Course hosts the monthly series, 6 p.m., on the final Friday of the month. This month, Mike Kaawa and Analu Aina perform. Come to “The Grill” at Leilehua Golf Course for this free event, open to the public. Food and drinks are available for purchase. Military ID

not required. Call 656-0114.

March

3 / Thursday

**Santana in Concert** — Ten-time Grammy award-winning guitarist returns to Hawaii , 8 p.m., Blaidell Arena after standing-room-only shows in 2013. For the NBC box office info line, call 768-5252 or online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

6 / Sunday

**Women’s 10k Run** — Hawai’i Pacific Health invites women of all ages to participate in the 39th annual Hawai’i Pacific Health Women’s 10k, 7 a.m., March 6, at Kapiolani Park. Registration is underway for the scenic, 6.2-mile race that takes participants around Diamond Head and returning to Kapi’olani Park for after-race festivities.  
Cost is \$35 for students and military. Register online at [www.hawaii.pacifichealth.org/womens10k](http://www.hawaii.pacifichealth.org/womens10k).

10 / Thursday

**Healthy Eating Commissary Tour** — Registered dietician nutritionists host the tour, 1:30 p.m., March 10, at the SB Commissary to identify healthy food choices, product comparisons and shopping tips. Choose to Lose participants earn three “Choose to Lose Bucks” for participating. Call 433-4950 to attend.

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil). (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
  - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
  - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at Soldiers’ Chapel and 12 p.m., TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at Wheeler Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
  - 9 a.m. at MPC
  - 9 a.m., at FD, TAMC chapel
  - 10 a.m. at HMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at AMR
  - 11:30 a.m. at WAAF (Spanish language)
  - 11 a.m. at SC (Contemporary)
- Liturgical (Lutheran/Anglican)
- Sunday, 10 a.m. at WAAF



Temporarily closed for maintenance

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to [aaes.com](http://aaes.com) under realtime movie listing.

Schofield Barracks’

Sgt. Smith Theater

remains closed for

Directorate of

Public Works

maintenance work.

A February

reopening

date for movie

viewing

is tentatively

scheduled.

Call Schofield

Exchange at

237-4502/4572.

Calendar abbreviations

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command  
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division  
ACS: Army Community Service  
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan  
AFTB: Army Family Team Building  
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA  
BCT: Brigade Combat Team  
BSB: Brigade Support Battalion  
Co.: Company  
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services  
EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program  
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

Recreation  
FRG: Family Readiness Group  
FS: Fort Shafter  
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation  
IPC: Island Palm Communities  
PFC: Physical Fitness Center  
SB: Schofield Barracks

SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills  
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center  
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii  
USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific  
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield





# AER fundraising campaign eyes upcoming kickoff

**ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
Directorate of Family and Morale  
Welfare and Recreation

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The U.S. Army Hawaii community is cordially invited to attend the Army Emergency Relief annual fundraising campaign kickoff hosted by U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, March 4.


The event will begin at 4:15 p.m. at the Nehelani Banquet and Conference Center, here. Right Arm Night will immediately follow, so its attendees are invited to join the kickoff, too.

USAG-HI will also host refreshments with live music prior to the kickoff from 3:15-3:45 p.m. at the same location where attendance is encouraged as a sign of support for AER.

**Donation-based program**  
As a private nonprofit agency, AER is funded

**Contact AER**  
The Schofield Barracks AER Office is located at Army Community Service (ACS), Building 2091, Kolekole Avenue. Call (808) 655-4227.

Remember, the main reason family members are disapproved is failure to turn in documentation by the May 1 deadline, so for more information or to apply, go to the AER website at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) and click on “Scholarships.”



solely by the generous donations from Soldiers and the community.

AER does not receive donations through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), but through its annual fundraising campaign, which runs this year through May 15.

The AER office, here, is the only AER office on Oahu, and as such is responsible to assist all Soldiers, retirees and their family members on the island.

In 2015, this office collected \$301,000 in donations, but distributed over \$2.1 million dollars in loans and grants to over 1,200 Soldiers and family members.

AER was established in 1942 by Soldiers for Soldiers in response to the financial demands of the World War. That’s why it’s referred to as “Soldiers Helping Soldiers.”

Today, financial demands continue to press our Soldiers, mostly through no fault of their own. AER assists with such things as emergency travel costs, when the unit cannot; with privately owned vehicle, or POV, repairs that exceed a Soldier’s savings; and with rent and initial deposits when basic allowance for housing, or BAH, has not started or is incorrect. AER also helps with much more basic living necessities.

**Scholarships**  
The secondary mission of AER is scholarships for spouses and children of active duty and retirees. The scholarship is “needs-based,” and last year ranged from \$500 to \$3,300.

The scholarship application period began Jan. 4, and it runs to May 1 when all supporting

documentation is due to AER headquarters. The entire process is online; no snail mail is required.

Last year, AER awarded 4,245 scholarships, totaling more than \$9 million to spouses and

children of Soldiers.

Your AER donations are put to good use for Soldiers and their families, so when you just don’t have the cash, let AER be your first choice.



Photo by Karen Iwamoto, Oahu Publications

**Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, 25th ID commander, right, commends Spc. Julian Turner, center, for sharing her personal experience of receiving help during the 2015 Army Emergency Relief Fund Kickoff. This year’s kickoff is scheduled for March 4 at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks.**



Photos courtesy Island Palm Communities

**Ka Ram Yang, daughter of Sgt. Seon and Eun Yang, is awarded \$1,000 from WinnCompanies to support her studies at Boston University in the 2014-15 academic year.**

## IPC residents eligible for annual scholarships

**ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES**  
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — WinnCompanies, the firm providing property management and maintenance services by Island Palm Communities, is celebrating more than four decades in business by offering an amazing scholarship opportunity to residents.

“In furtherance of our objective to enhance the lives of all that we serve, distinguished high school seniors, high school graduates and GED holders, living in communities managed by WinnCompanies, are invited by our Board of Directors to apply for WinningEdge Scholarship awards for the 2016 to 2017 academic year,” said Gilbert Winn, WinnCompanies’ chief executive officer.

“This program was designed to celebrate and support residents pursuing post-secondary education at a college, university or professional trade school,” Winn added.

Scholarship awards generally start at \$1,000. All completed applications must be submitted to an IPC community center no later than April 1 for consideration, so don’t delay.

**More Online**  
To find out if you or a member of your family is eligible, log on to [www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/winningedge](http://www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/winningedge).



**Austin Gillum, son of Col. David and Dr. Debra Gillum, is awarded \$1,000 from WinnCompanies to pursue studies at Leeward Community College and a community college in upstate New York.**

## Hawaii students move ahead online

**SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICE**  
Child, Youth and School Services

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Thanks to a grant funded by the Department of Defense Education Activity, there are now two interactive online programs that are available, free of cost, to all students in the 10 Leilehua Complex schools.

The Leilehua schools involved in the program include Hale Kula Elementary, Solomon Elementary, Wheeler Elementary, Helemano Elementary, Wahiawa Elementary, Iliahi Elementary, Ka’ala Elementary, Wheeler Middle, Wahiawa Middle, and Leilehua High School.

**SOAR explained**  
The Student Online Achievement Resources Grant, or the SOAR grant, provides online math and reading practice through interactive online programs. These two online programs (SuccessMaker and GradPoint) are available to assist military-connected students with math and reading skills and to get additional support with concepts developed in the classroom.

Through the programs provided by the SOAR grant, students experience an online interactive lesson, followed by the opportunity to practice a specific, targeted skill or concept. By providing feedback based on individual progression, students know how they are doing and how much they have improved.

These programs identify what problems they get wrong and where they have made an error, so a parent or teacher can intervene to ensure they don’t make the same mistake again.

SuccessMaker is a highly interactive one-on-one instructional program for students in grades K-8. This program continually adapts to show how the student

is performing and presents the material in a fun way that both challenges and motivates the student.

Additionally, this program only requires that a student spend 20 minutes a day, three-to-five days a week on it. With consistent use, SuccessMaker can get your child on the grade level (if they are behind) and take them to the next grade level.

GradPoint is a highly effective and enriching learning experience for students in grades 6-12. This program aligns with courses that students are enrolled in. If they are struggling in their math class, GradPoint is a great alternative to help present the material to them in a different way. This is a great resource for parents and/or tutors to use with students struggling with course concepts.

**Recognizing challenges**  
In addition to the everyday stresses of finishing homework on time and getting good grades, military children face unique challenges, such as moving frequently and having a parent deployed or away for training. Both SuccessMaker and GradPoint can help military children to overcome these educational challenges, so they can get ahead.

**Program Support**  
Families can contact the School Liaison Office at 655-8326 for more information, and are reminded that the value of these programs is dependent on student use and availability of funding.

Additional program information and support can be provided by the Leilehua Complex Area Instructional Coach, Amanda McConnell, at 622-6393, ext. 273.



Photo courtesy of the School Liaison Office

**Amanda McConnell (left), Leilehua Complex Area instructional coach with the Hawaii DoE, trains (right to left) Xinyu Hu, Kimberly Waickwicz and Sharon James from the Schofield Barracks School Age Center on SuccessMaker and GradPoint.**

## Parental survey feedback urged for assessment of their child’s public school

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
News Release

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) has begun its annual School Quality Survey (SQS) to gather important feedback from students, parents/guardians and staff about public schools.

The deadline to complete and return the SQS is March 15.

This survey provides information on how schools are doing with respect to school culture, satisfaction and engagement. The feedback gathered is used to support school planning and improvement efforts, and it meets legislative and Board of Education require-

ments.

Students in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11 will take the survey online at school, as will teachers, administrative office staff and instructional support staff.

A parent or guardian of the students in the surveyed grades will have the option to take the survey online or via a paper format. Each school communicates to parents on how to complete the SQS, whether digital and/or hard copy.

“We’re hoping for more parents to respond this year since last year’s return rate was 24 percent,” said Tammi Chun, assistant superintendent, Office of Strategy, Innovation and Performance. “This feedback is very

important to us as we continue to work on ways to improve learning experiences for our children.”

Responses will remain anonymous.

The public can view the SQS for their community schools and statewide results.

**For More information**  
For questions about the survey contact HIDOE at 733-4008 or via email at [SQS@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:SQS@notes.k12.hi.us).

Look for Report Finder on HIDOE’s website, [bit.ly/ReportFinder](http://bit.ly/ReportFinder), and search for “School Quality Survey” and add the name of a school for school-level results.



Photo by Christine Cabalo, Oahu Publications

**Parents and guardians are encouraged to speak up about how to make public schools better by filling out the annual SQS. The Hawaii DoE makes the results publicly available and uses answers to improve schools.**





Courtesy photo

The Molinaris enjoy the slopes, but it serves as a marriage litmus test according to the author.

# Marriage limits tested

After 23 years of marriage, I know relationships are tested. Power struggles surface during unexpected moments when complex facets of our subconscious bait us into subtle conflicts with our mates.

Every couple has their triggers, and ours include discussions over which way the toilet paper roll should hang, who touched the thermostat last and what constitutes junk mail.

For my husband and me, there is one seemingly harmless event that launches us into a passive aggressive battle of wills like no other. It happens only once or twice a year, but when it does, it causes palpable tension that leaves us both leafing through the yellow pages for a good attorney, just in case. That event is skiing.

### Consideration

A wonderful recreational sport intended to provide overworked human beings with a break from the daily grind, unforgettable memories and adrenaline-fueled euphoria, skiing actually sends us to the brink of divorce.

Our perceptions of skiing started in our respective childhoods. Francis will never forget being forced to take ski lessons with his brothers, after having been bribed with hot cocoa. Whereas, my high school best friend and I loved going to local Pennsylvania ski resorts, lying to boys we met on the lifts, telling them we went to exclusive private schools and giving our names as “Claire Taylor” and “Brooke Townsend.”

With our particular histories, Francis and I see family ski trips through different lenses – mine are rose colored and his sharply focused in harsh lighting.

Last weekend, some friends invited us to their ski place up in New Hampshire. As soon as we accepted the invitation, the power struggle ensued.

Subconsciously, Francis was prepared to hate every minute of it – the cold, the inconvenience, the expense – and to hold me personally responsible for his annoyance. And without realizing it, I launched my own propaganda campaign to convince him that skiing is fun.

While Francis remained stubbornly skeptical, I ran around like the proverbial headless chicken to shield him from the inconvenient truth. I needed a Ph.D. in economics to get the best deal on lift tickets. I needed eight arms at the base recreation center to rent two snowboard sets, two alpine ski sets and four cross country ski sets. I needed the patience of Job packing enough gloves and hats and



snacks and drinks to keep everyone happy. I needed a second mortgage on our house to pay for it ... and acting lessons in how to grin and bear it.

It all came to a head our first day on the slopes. After huffing and puffing our way into long underwear, ski pants, sweaters and coats, we still had to pack our equipment into the car, find a parking spot at the resort and awkwardly lug our clacking skis, poles, helmets and boots to the ticket area.

The tension emanating from Francis was palpable. With clenched teeth, he silently screamed, “This is all your fault!” And the worst was yet to come.

Sweaty and winded, we went to the locker room for the most notorious of ski-related tasks. You’d think that by now, someone would have invented an easier way to put on ski boots, or at the very least, a boot that doesn’t make you walk like you are doing a bad version of the hustle.

Francis grunted audibly from his side of the bench. It took two of us bracing against the lockers to snap his buckles shut, and then we had to do it all over again when he announced that a wrinkle in his sock was causing excruciating pain.

Cussing under his breath, Francis did the awkward-rocking-boot-walk outside to find his skis, and by some miracle of God, we made it onto the chair lift.

In that rare moment of calm silence, I realized that Francis had been right all along; skiing really is the most inconvenient sport. I decided to concede defeat and leave him alone, fully expecting him to give up after a run or two and head for the lodge.

Hours later, I ran into Francis on the slopes. Not only had he not given up, he’d been skiing all day long, without hot cocoa.

“You up for another run?” he asked from behind his balaclava.

“Heck, yeah,” I smiled, slotting into the lift line with him.

On the chairlift, I asked, “Isn’t this fun?” “It’s okay; I guess,” he responded, non-committally.

I leaned in for a frosty kiss, realizing that our power struggle had peaked and it was all down hill from there.

(For more of Molinari’s perspectives, visit [www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com](http://www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com).)

# Valentine flowers ready at Schofield Exchange

ARMY AND AIR FORCE  
EXCHANGE SERVICE  
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Love is in the air this Valentine’s Day on Hawaii Exchange, where shoppers can pick up fresh flowers, including roses, starting Feb. 11 at the Exchange main stores and expresses.

A wide variety of arrangements will be

available, ranging from single roses to dozen-rose bouquets. “The Exchange loves to make any gift-giving occasion simple and easy for our shoppers,” said General Manager Robert Rice. “From flowers to cards to candy, we’re making the Hawaii Exchange your one-stop-shop for all things Valentine’s Day.”



Courtesy photo

Exchange Valentine’s flowers are available.

## POSTER CONTEST



Contest entry artwork provided by Lannie Estrada and Kiersten Young, 4th grade.





# TAMC safety, patient care best practices showcased

Story and photo by  
**JIM “GOOSE” GUZIOR**  
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Three times a year, Tripler Army Medical Center’s Nurse Practice Council (NPC) meets to vote on the best visual presentation created by clinics and departments throughout Tripler.

The projects are taken on by 30 department representatives to enhance performance in patient safety and patient care. These best practices of each department are then showcased in a visual presentation and voted on by the Tripler command group.

“Everyone gets together and is able to see what initiatives each other has been working on and adapt those practices if applicable,” said Ryan Ramos, a licensed practical nurse and NPC co-chairman. “Of

course, it also fosters staff communication.”

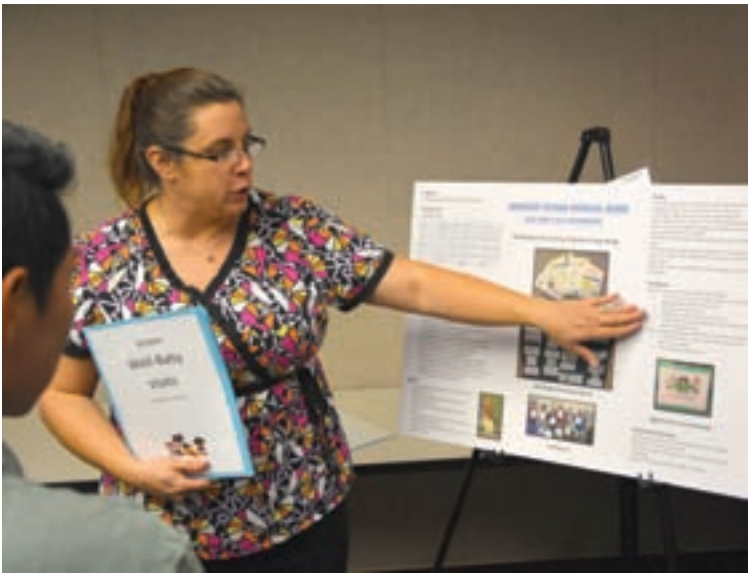
This quarter’s winner was a presentation given by Roni Garcia-Perkins (pictured) an LPN at the Warrior Ohana Medical Home in Kapolei.

The Warrior Ohana Medical Home created a plan to increase parents’ awareness of the time frames for well-baby visits and even made a “Welcome Packet” for newborn babies and their parents.

The winner receives a Commander’s Coin of Excellence and the presentation will be added to the “Patient Caring Touch” display in Tripler.

According to Ramos, beneficiaries are the real winners.

“We’ve been doing this for little more than a year, and all these best practices enhance patient care,” said Ramos.



Roni Garcia-Perkins, a licensed practical nurse, describes how the Warrior Ohana Medical Home created a plan to help parents keep track of newborn doctor visits.

Garcia-Perkins won as the best visual presentation from the Tripler Army Medical Center’s Nurse Practice Council, which judged presentations from 30 different medical departments.

## TAMC TIP

### Zika Virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or the CDC, the Zika virus is a mosquito-borne virus, and it’s spread to humans through mosquito bites.

Approximately 1 in 5 people infected with Zika become ill.

People infected with Zika may experience mild symptoms, such as fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis (red eyes), which last several days to a week. It is uncommon for symptoms to be so severe as to require hospitalization.

There is no vaccine against Zika virus, but there are some things you can do to protect yourself against being infected with Zika. For example, wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, stay indoors with air conditioning, use window and door screens to help keep mosquitoes outside and apply insect repellent.

For more information about the Zika virus and how to protect yourself against being infected, visit the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov/zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika).